Achievement of rural electrification targets

†2910. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of States which are lagging behind the targets set under the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana;

(b) whether electrification work in Uttarakhand is being carried out as per the target set under this programme; and

(c) if not, by when the electrification work would be completed in all the villages, small villages and *tokas* in the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The progress of electrification of un-electrified villages under RGGVY during Tenth Plan period has been slow mainly in the States of Bihar, Jharkhand, Orissa, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, West Bengal, NE States and J & K.

(b) Keeping in view, the field conditions including hilly terrains, thin spread of populated habitations and different logistics, the execution of electrification works under RGGVY in Uttarakhand, has not lagged behind. The figures amply demonstrate it.

(c) Out of 1469 un-electrified villages covered in the sanctioned projects of 13 districts, UPCL, the implementing agency has reported that electrification works have been completed in 1226 un-electrified villages besides intensive electrification of 5230 electrified villages of the State as on 31.03.2008. The works in the balance 243 villages are under execution and the same are expected to be completed by 2009.

Compensation for displaced families by NTPC in Sipat

†2911. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that compensation and employment to the families whose land has been acquired, is not being given by the NTPC in Sipat in Chhattisgarh; and

(b) if so, by when compensation and employment would be provided to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Land for Sipat Thermal Power Project was acquired by the State Government of the undivided Madhya Pradesh for NTPC according to the provisions of Land Acquisition Act. The first notification under Section 4 of the Act for the priority area was notified on 06.11.1998. Subsequent notifications for other areas followed. The Entire compensation for the acquired assets, as decided by the State Government, has been deposited with the State Government for further distribution of the same.

In addition to the entitled compensation, NTPC initiated activities for the Resettlement and Rehabilitation (R & R) of the Project Affected Persons (PAPs) in accordance with its company policy right since inception. A Socio Economic Survey (SES) was conducted by IIT Kanpur in 1998 for all the affected villages. Subsequent to the completion of SES, formulation of a comprehensive Rehabilitation Action Plan (RAP) was initiated in consultation with the State Government and the PAPs.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

A comprehensive RAP was formulated for Sipat project through a participative and consultative process incorporating suggestions made by PAPs their representatives, local representative and officials from the state government in various consultation meetings. The RAP so formulated was finally approved by the District Collector Bilaspur on 9.8.2000 for implementation. Having gone through the entire process and the Government of Chhattisgarh having approved it. NTPC is committed to the agreed RAP in its entirety as approved by Government of Chhattisgarh. The salient RAP provisions are as follows:- Individual R&R benefits in the form of grants to land owner PAP to facilitate purchase of land for land considered as a prime rehabilitation measure.

— Grants to other categoreis of PAPs namely those tilling government land, allottees of lndira AvasYojana etc. ,

— 40% shop allotment to PAPs in the township

— Community development activities including infrastracture upgradation in the project affected villages.

— Grants to Village Panchayats for a definite period.

— Other facilities like capacity building, employment opportunities and welfare related activities.

NTPC has reported that all the activities to be executed by NTPC, as envisaged in RAP, have been completed.

As regards employment opportunities, there was no such agreement of providing direct employment to PAPs in NTPC. As the Sipat Thermal Power Project is being installed largely with environment friendly super critical technology.it was categorically mentioned in the RAP that employment opportunities shall be comparatively less. However, for direct employment in NTPC in the unskilled category, only PAPs would be considered and in the skilled category preference would be given to them subject to availability of vacancies. Till now, 43 PAPs have been recruited in skilled category and recruitment of 100 PAPs in unskilled category is under process. Further 2042 PAPs/Local persons have been deployed under contracting agencies engaged for construction activities in the project.

As and when further vacancies are notified. PAPs would be considered for employment in accordance with the provisions of the comprehensive and agreed RAP.

Allocation of power to Madhya Pradesh

†2912. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government is continuously reducing the quota of electricity allocated to States;

(b) if so, the quantum of electricity in megawatts allocated-to Madhya Pradehs, at present; and

(c) the steps being taken to ensure that the State gets its full quota of electricity from the Central Government for its different power projects?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.